



## **Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes**

Date: May 8, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Town Hall Annex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

Members in Attendance: Daniel Amstutz, Wayne Chouinard, Lenard Diggins,  
Charles Giroux, Michael Gordon, Melissa Laube, Jeffrey Maxtutis,  
Howard Muise, Scott Smith

Members Missing: Brian Kmetz, Corey Rateau

Other Participants: Daniel Sullivan, Alison Felix

Public Members: Anne Peterson, Kamal Chadha

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***Howard Muise called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.***

**Public Comments:** There were three members of the public in attendance. The residents had concerns about safety related to Victoria Rd and Summer St. They noted that cars sometimes go the wrong way on Victoria Rd. (which is one-way northbound), and that it is difficult to see cars and pedestrians at the Summer St. crosswalk at Victoria Rd. They suggested that the crosswalk be moved to the west side of the intersection with Victoria Rd. from the east side. Muise noted that the vote called for in the meeting agenda is to remove parking spaces on Summer St. to improve visibility of pedestrians by drivers. Moving the crosswalk will require engineering analysis. The members of the public also suggested including a bump out at the intersection, and adding flashers to the crosswalk. They also expressed concern about traffic at the intersection of Victoria Rd. and Johnson Rd. and requested a Do Not Enter sign on Victoria Rd at Johnson Rd. and other measures to prevent wrong-way traffic.

**Automated Driving Systems:** Dan Sullivan and Alison Felix noted that testing is taking place in all states for higher levels of automated vehicles (AV). Felix gave an overview of AVs and the AV industry. Testing would be for conditional automation, high level automation, and full automation. Right now Massachusetts is only testing automation in robo-taxis. All testing still requires a driver behind the wheel. Sullivan noted that two companies have gone through the application process, but only have a total of approximately 30 vehicles. The application requires approval from the local road owner to test. The road owner would need to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with all parties. Wayne Chouinard asked what the end goal for testing would be, and why the town would sign on. Sullivan responded that companies need to do localized testing before the vehicles can be deployed. Scott Smith commented that it's in the

Town's interest to test our use cases while the testing is still in controlled environments. Jeff Maxtutis asked about safety with regard to schools. Sullivan responded that the Town can specify which roads can be included or excluded in the testing. The next two steps for the Town would be to approve specific roads and then approve the Pilot process.

**Town Issues/Activities:**

Wayne Chouinard reviewed his memo to TAC, including discussion about the design process for the Mystic Street bridge, the Complete Streets submittal for the Lake St. signal, an update on the pavement management report and improvement on the pavement condition index, upcoming road work, and Chapter 90 requests.

Dan Amstutz noted that he submitted an application for the Mass Trails grant for the Lake St/Minuteman Bikeway intersection. The Town will find out in June if the grant has been approved. Amstutz is also working with the MBTA on details for making the BRT bus lane permanent along Mass Ave.

**June Election of Officers:** Muise noted that there will be a vote for election of officers in June. Anybody interested in being an officer should talk to Amstutz.

**Vote: Crosswalk on Summer at Buzzell Field/Victoria Street:** Chouinard and Corey Rateau will look at moving the crosswalk, and at painting a crosswalk across Victoria Rd. parallel to Summer St. TAC voted unanimously to institute parking restrictions within 40 feet in the eastbound direction before the crosswalk, within five feet in the eastbound direction after the crosswalk, and from the edge of the driveway of 37 Summer St to the crosswalk in the westbound direction.

**Vote: Flags at 352 Mass Ave Crosswalk:** Maxtutis noted that the location has a daycare, and that the existing sign posts will be sufficient to hold the flag canisters. TAC voted unanimously to install pedestrian flags at the crosswalk.

**Crosswalk on Grove St:** Melissa Laube will get counts and speeds from the Arlington High School Study. The Crosswalk Working Group will look at the location with Chouinard.

**Traffic Calming on Herbert Road at Magnolia Park:** A petition was recently sent to the Select Board from neighbors near Herbert Road requesting traffic calming measures at Magnolia Park. Muise will write back to the Select Board noting their recent approval for a speed safety zone, and that TAC previously declined to recommend a raised intersection because of cost. Muise suggested doing a follow-up speed study once the speed zone signs have been in place for a couple months, preferably in the summer when the park may be at its busiest.

**Transportation Advisory Committee Members:**

Daniel Amstutz (Planning), Wayne Chouinard (Public Works), Lenard Diggins,  
Charles Giroux, Michael Gordon (Secretary), Melissa Laube,  
Jeffrey Maxtutis, Howard Muise (Chair), Officer Corey Rateau (Police), and Scott Smith  
**Web site: [www.arlingtonma.gov/tac](http://www.arlingtonma.gov/tac)**

**Parking and Traffic Direction on Bartlett Ave:** Rateau is leading the study, so TAC will revisit at the next meeting where Rateau is in attendance.

**Traffic Volume and Speed Criteria:** Amstutz gave an overview of a new effort he is leading to define what is considered “too fast” and to create a policy around it. Muise noted that anything that qualifies as a speed safety zone should have defined criteria. Chouinard requested sticking to existing classifications, speeds, and volumes in creating the standards. Smith suggested combining speeds and volumes into the standards, and testing out ideas on places that TAC is aware of speeding problems.

**Crosswalk on Academy at Maple:** TAC will revisit once Rateau conducts counts at the location.

**Traffic Calming on Kensington Park:** TAC will revisit once Rateau conducts counts at the location.

**Appleton Street/Paul Revere Road:** Chouinard will send around sketches of potential traffic calming ideas along Park Ave.

***Howard Muise adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.***

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